RESTRAINT CHAIR

514.1 POLICY

The Thurston County Sheriff's Office Corrections Bureau will establish protocol for the use of the Emergency Restraint Chair, a tool used to provide the safe containment of an inmate who is exhibiting violent or uncontrollable behavior and to prevent self-injury, injury to others, or property damage when other techniques are not effective.

514.2 AUTHORIZATION

The On Duty Supervisor (ODS), Housing Sergeant, or designees, will give approval prior to members using the restraint chair. The exception to this would be in an exigent situation where an inmate must be placed in the chair before the ODS or Housing Sergeant can be notified, in an effort to prevent an inmate from causing harm to themselves, others, or the facility. When this occurs, the ODS or Housing Sergeant will be notified as soon as possible after the inmate is placed in the chair. Only Correctional Deputies who are trained in the use of the restraint chair will place an inmate in the chair. Members who are not trained may assist if they are under the supervision of trained members

514.3 CHAIR DEPLOYMENT

The restraint chair is intended to be used only as a last resort, after negotiations and verbal commands to an inmate to cease their potentially harmful behaviors have failed. It may be used to contain inmates who are a threat to the legitimate interests of the Corrections Bureau facilities. Under no circumstances, will an inmate be placed in a restraint chair for punishment.

Members may use the restraint chair for emergencies in any or all of the following situations:

(a) When an inmate has demonstrated violent or uncontrollable behavior.

(b) To prevent self-injury, injury to others, or property damage.

(c) Upon the recommendation of a psychiatrist, physician, or qualified health care professional.

(d) As a means of moving a combative inmate safely from one section of the facility or another, to attend a court appearance.

The use of the restraint chair requires documentation via the use of force form.

The On Duty Supervisor (ODS), Housing Sergeant, or designee, will ensure the notification of on-duty Medical staff if an inmate is placed into the restraint chair. These inmates will receive a medical evaluation within a half-hour from the time they were placed into the chair and then once every subsequent hour. If there is no medical staff on duty, the ODS or Housing Sergeant will document that fact and complete an evaluation of the inmate's condition. As soon as Medical staff arrives at the facility, they will complete an evaluation on these inmates, whether or not the inmate is still restrained.

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Members will place the inmate under close observation while they are in the restraint chair. Members will monitor and document fifteen (15) minute checks of the inmate to ensure their health and welfare. Due to the use of restraints, close attention will be paid to the inmate's circulatory system.

(a) Whenever appropriate, but at least every two (2) hours, offer the inmate water to assist them in maintaining hydration. All attempts made to give the inmate water, whether they drink it or not, will be documented.

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